

REMARKS

In the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment dated March 13, 2008, the Examiner indicated that the substitute specification filed on December 14, 2007 improperly uses strikethrough to show deletion of five or fewer characters.

Applicants' representative contacted both the Examiner and the Examiner's Supervisor via telephone to explain why Applicants believe that the Notice of Non-Compliant was improper. In particular, it was explained that 37 CFR 1.125(c) indicates that "double brackets placed before and after the deleted characters may be used to show deletion of five or fewer consecutive characters" (emphasis added). In response, the Examiner's Supervisor informed Applicants' representative that the Notice of Non-Compliant would be withdrawn upon the filing of a written response, and that examination would proceed on the merits.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants kindly request that the Notice of Non-Compliant be withdrawn and that examination of the present application proceed on the merits. If the Examiner has any questions regarding this application, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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